*Davis Liquid Waste Superfund Site Progress Report*

*October 2001*

***Highlights of Recent EPA and RI DEM Cleanup activities...***

**** waterline system up and running/ 95 homes connected***

**** Over 6 million tires removed***

**** Over 1,400 drums removed***

**** Over 15,000 laboratory containers removed***

**** Over 25,000 tons of solid wastes and soil removed***

**** Over78,000 tons of soil treated on site.***

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***For more information, call Site contacts:***

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***617/918-1334***

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***401/222-3872 ext. 7148***

***Pamela Harting-Barrat, USEPA Community Relations Coordinator***
***617/918-1318***

**Concerned citizens may also call EPA toll free at: 1-888-EPA-REG1**

EPA Region 1, New England

RI DEM

# Soil Cleanup Completed at the Davis Liquid Waste Superfund Site

Smithfield, RI

*The Davis Liquid Waste Site located in Smithfield, RI is currently undergoing cleanup under the USEPA Superfund Program. The site was listed on the Superfund National Priorities list in 1983.*

**Soil Cleanup Activities**

*What's Happened Already....*

The initial phase of soil cleanup activities at the Davis Liquid Waste Site which began in 1997, focused first on clearing and removing tires from known areas of contamination and later on removing drums and laboratory containers buried beneath the tires.

Between March of 1997 and June of 1999, over 1 million whole and shredded tires were removed from the site as part of EPA's cleanup efforts. An additional 5 million tires were removed by the State of Rhode Island. The last of the tires left the site in December of 2000.

During drum and laboratory container removal activities over 1,400 drums and 15,000 laboratory containers were excavated, repackaged and disposed of off site. Over 5,000 tons of a mixture of municipal solid wastes and soil were taken off site for disposal.

The second phase of soil cleanup activities began in October of 1999 with the initiation of treatment activities at the site. The first step of the soil treatment process consisted of excavating and separating the treatable materials from other debris. The screened soil was then placed into two large buildings at the site where it was thermally and mechanically treated. Each batch of soil typically underwent several days of treatment until cleanup standards were met. An extensive sampling and analytical program involving both an on site and off

View of tire and drum removal activities

View of on site soil treatment operations

**Soil Cleanup Activities Continued...**

site laboratory was used to verify that cleanup standards were met for each batch of soil. After treatment the soil was used to help backfill excavated areas at the site. Soil treatment was completed in April of 2001. During the cleanup, over 78,000 tons of soil were treated on site and another 20,000 tons of soils and miscellaneous wastes were shipped off site for treatment and disposal.

After the completion of treatment, the buildings were decontaminated and dismantled. Many treated and untreated areas of the site required additional fill to reach the final grade. Once graded, the entire disturbed area was covered with a 6-inch layer of topsoil. The disturbed area was than seeded with grass to prevent erosion and establish a suitable groundcover. Over 500 trees were also planted to help stabilize the site and restore wildlife habitat value. The tree planting consisted mainly of native species ranging in size from small saplings to large established plants.

These soil cleanup activities were completed by a group of Settling Parties under a Consent Decree negotiated with EPA at an approximate cost of $24 million. A remedial action report which provides additional details concerning the soil cleanup will be made available at the Greenville Public Library in the next few months.

*What's Ahead....*

Much progress has been made at the site towards the overall restoration with the completion of soil cleanup activities and removal of all tires. The removal of numerous drums and containers containing hazardous substances and treatment of tens of thousands of tons of contaminated soil have helped remove a significant source of the contamination at the site. However, some contaminants may still remain in the groundwater and in the soil above applicable cleanup standards.

To help address any remaining contamination, the 1987 Record of Decision (ROD), which describes the cleanup plan for the site, calls for the construction of an on site groundwater extraction and treatment system. In order to determine the most appropriate way to implement this last component of the cleanup, EPA is planning to monitor the groundwater beneath the site over the next several years. The monitoring will provide EPA with the information it needs to finalize the design of the groundwater extraction and treatment system. It is anticipated that the first phase of the monitoring will start during the Fall of 2001.

View of plateau before treatment

View of plateau after treatment and tree planting

## *Where to go for more detailed information...*

Technical information and reports on the cleanup at the Davis Liquid Waste Superfund site are available for review at the following locations:

Greenville Public Library
537 Putnam Pike
Greenville, RI 02828
401/949-3630
Hours: Mon.,Tues. & Wed.9:30-8:00pm
Thurs. 1:00pm-8:00pm
Fri. & Sat.: 10am-5:00pm
Sun: 1:00pm-4:00pm

EPA Records Center
1 Congress Street
Boston, MA 02114
617/918-1440
Mon.- Fri: 10-12:00
2:00-5:00pm
(Call ahead to make an appointment)

**Internet users may also access information on the EPA Superfund Program at:**
**http://www.epa.gov/region01/remed/superfund.**

**If you would like to change your address, add or delete your name from the Davis Liquid Waste Superfund site mailing list, fill out this form and return to:**

**Pamela Harting-Barrat**
**EPA Community Relations Coordinator**
**EPA Region 1/ RAA**
**1 Congress Street**
**Boston, MA 02114-2023**

**Name**_____
**Address:**_____
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